

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claim 1 has been amended by incorporating therein the subject matter of claim 2. Accordingly, claim 2 has been cancelled, claims 3 and 6 have been amended to depend on claim 1 instead of claim 2, and claims 9, 11, 14, and 18 have also been cancelled.

Also, in claim 1, line 3, “he” has been corrected to “the.”

Further, new claim 20 has been added, corresponding to claim 5 rewritten in independent form by incorporating therein the subject matter of claim 1 before the present amendment.

Claims 1, 3-8, 10, 12-13, 15-17, and 19-20 are pending in the present application.

In the Office Action, the specification is objected to as lacking section headings.

Section headings have been added in the description as suggested in the Office Action. Accordingly, it is submitted that the objection should be withdrawn.

Next, in the Office Action, claims 1 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by US 6,901,747 to Tashiro et al. (“Tashiro”).

Further, claims 4, 8, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Tashiro in view of US 5,775,099 to Ito et al. (“Ito”), and claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Tashiro in view of US 6,171,565 to Hohne et al. (“Hohne”).

Claim 1 has been amended by incorporating therein the subject matter of claim 2, which is not included in this rejection. Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejection is moot.

Further, new claim 20 incorporates the subject matter of claim 5, which is not included in this rejection. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 20 is immediately allowable.

Amendment
Serial No. **10/532,129**
Attorney Docket No. **052449**

In conclusion, the invention as presently claimed is patentable. It is believed that the claims are in allowable condition and a notice to that effect is earnestly requested.

In the event there is, in the Examiner's opinion, any outstanding issue and such issue may be resolved by means of a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of the response period. Please charge the fee for such extension and any other fees which may be required to our Deposit Account No. 502759.

Respectfully submitted,

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